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Message Text

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61
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---------- 079502
P 102036Z APR 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 081954

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CA, ETRN
SUBJECT: PROPOSAL TO DISCUSS RAILROAD REORGANIZATION

1. SUMMARY: CANADIAN EMBASSY NOTE TO DEPARTMENT MARCH 31 EXPRESSED CANADIAN AUTHORITIES' HOPE FOR BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS BEFORE FINAL IMPLEMENTATION OF US RAILWAY ASSOCIATION'S PLAN FOR RESTRUCTURING RAILROADS IN NORTHEAST AND MIDWEST. DEPARTMENT'S REPLY APRIL 9 SUGGESTS MEETING IN WASHINGTON AROUND APRIL 23. END SUMMARY.

2. SUBSTANTIVE PARTS OF NOTES FOLLOW:

CANADIAN NOTE: QUOTE THE EMBASSY...REFERS TO RECENT INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN OFFICERS OF THE EMBASSY AND MEMBERS OF THE RAIL SERVICES PLANNING OFFICE OF THE INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION.

THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN NOTE OF THE UNITED STATES RAILWAY ASSOCIATION'S PRELIMINARY SYSTEM PLAN FOR RESTRUCTURING RAILROADS IN THE NORTHEAST AND MIDWEST REGION PURSUANT TO THE REGIONAL RAIL REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1973. AS THIS PLAN WILL AFFECT RAILWAY OPERATIONS INTO CANADA, CANADIAN AUTHORITIES HOPE THAT BILATERAL DIS-
CUSSIONS MAY BE HELD PRIOR TO THE FINAL IMPLEMENTATION OF
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ANY SUCH REORGANIZATION PLAN. THE EMBASSY WOULD BE

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GRATEFUL IF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE WOULD DRAW THIS

INFORMATION TO THE ATTENTION OF THE APPROPRIATE UNITED STATES AUTHORITIES. UNQUOTE.

US NOTE: QUOTE THE DEPARTMENT...HAS BROUGHT THIS INFORMATION TO THE ATTENTION OF THE ASSOCIATION AND THE RAIL SERVICES PLANNING OFFICE. THOSE TWO AGENCIES HAVE AGREED THAT AN EARLY MEETING WITH CANADIAN AUTHORITIES WOULD BE USEFUL IN ALLOWING THE ASSOCIATION TO EXPLAIN THE PLAN MORE FULLY AND TO RESPOND TO CANADIAN QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PLAN. FOLLOWING THE MEETING, THE AGENCIES WOULD WELCOME WRITTEN COMMENTS FROM THE CANADIAN AUTHORITIES, AND FURTHER DISCUSSIONS, IF DESIRABLE, TO ASSURE THAT CANADIAN CONCERNS ARE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION TO THE FULLEST EXTENT POSSIBLE IN THE DRAFTING AND EVALUATION OF THE FINAL SYSTEM PLAN.

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE SUGGESTS THAT THE MEETING BE SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE IN WASHINGTON, D.C., ON OR ABOUT APRIL 23; AND THAT THE CANADIAN AUTHORITIES PROPOSE AN AGENDA, OR QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION, TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE IN PREPARATION FOR THE MEETING. UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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